

# ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



Newsletter of the N.H. Department of Environmental Services

March/April 2004

## Governor's Message

### Remembering the Old Man

The centuries-old Old Man of the Mountain was, and still is, a testament of the steadfastness of New Hampshire character and the resolve of its people. It was the ultimate symbol of those who would "Live Free or Die." The loss of the Old Man left a gap in our wondrous mountain range, but not in the hearts and spirit of the people of New Hampshire, which is why I formed a task force to memorialize this great monument as a symbol of New Hampshire's scenic landscape and Yankee spirit.

Former Governor Steve Merrill was appointed as head of the Old Man of the Mountain Revitalization Task Force. The task force dedicated many hours traveling to the area where the Old Man once was, studying many different aspects of the Old Man – geographical, historical, cultural, geological, et al. – and considering the many options and suggestions that were received from our wonderful citizens throughout the state. I've accepted their many worthy recommendations, including building a walking path and museum at the base of the mountain with viewing devices, the Profile Award (an annual award given a municipality, organization and individual who have demonstrated long-term efforts to preserve the state's natural, cultural or social resources), and statewide outreach and education programs.

The completion of the memorial is set for 2005, the bicentennial of the documented discovery of the Old Man. To meet this goal, we have put together a design team, to include the Department of Resources and Economic Development, the Department of Transportation, Administrative Services, the New Hampshire Historical Society and the Governor's Office. These different divisions will provide resources ranging from cultural and tourism, contracting, and engineering. To date, we have received many generous donations, both in the monetary and in the memorial form. Donations are tax deductible and can be sent to: Old Man of the Mountain Revitalization Fund, c/o Governor's Office, State House, Concord, NH 03301.

Craig R. Benson, *Governor*

## Waste Management hosts free, technical seminar series

The DES Waste Management Division has planned for the new year a series of special interest technical seminars for staff and public at its offices on 29 Hazen Drive, Concord. Consultants, municipal officials, regulated community and other stakeholders are invited to attend the "town meeting style" presentations. The topics were chosen in technical areas that both DES staff and the outside community have expressed interest in, and which can benefit from a free and open discussion.



The presentations will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the DES auditorium or in Rooms 110-114. The seminars are free of charge, but registration is required. Please contact Amy Azeredo at [aazeredo@des.state.nh.us](mailto:aazeredo@des.state.nh.us) or call (603) 271-2905 if you plan

TECHNICAL SEMINARS, continued on page 2

## Commissioner's Column

### State makes progress in fight to remove MtBE from gasoline

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced its intention to approve New Hampshire's request to opt out of the federal Reformulated Gasoline Program (RFG). Final approval would signify dramatic progress in the effort to eliminate methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MtBE) from the state's gasoline supply.

DES has adopted its own fuel program, known as Oxygen Flexible Reformulated Gasoline (OFRFG). OFRFG is a market-based approach that allows gasoline suppliers the flexibility to sell gasoline that provides the same air quality benefits as RFG, with lower levels of MtBE. EPA's final approval is contingent upon comments received from the pe-

MTBE, continued on page 2

## MtBE

*continued from page 1*

troleum industry, national stakeholders, and the public.

The issues relating to MtBE are complex and difficult ones. However the availability of the new regional rules to achieve emissions reductions from alternate sources and the recent implementation of MtBE bans in California, New York, and Connecticut give us options that were unavailable three years ago. Governor Benson and our state legislators are to be commended for taking the steps necessary to remove MtBE from our gasoline. These steps will drive regional and national actions to force fuel providers to find substitutes that are cost-effective and provide equal air quality benefits without sacrificing our water quality.

DES has worked with the Legislature and Governor's Office over the past several years to develop strategies to reduce MtBE in gasoline and protect the state's drinking water supplies. DES's new fuel rule was part of an effort begun in 2001 to find a regional solution. It was hoped that other states in the region would buy into the program, thus encouraging fuel providers to find a substitute for MtBE in the gasoline sold in the Northeast. To date, this has not happened, resulting in continued use of gasoline that contains the higher MtBE levels. However, an EPA approved opt-out should make for an easier transition to another strategy to replace the air quality benefits of RFG.

This session, two bills have been introduced that could help to dramatically reduce MtBE levels in gasoline in the short term and ultimately ban the use of MtBE in New Hampshire. One bill introduced by Senator Russell Prescott would require DES to opt out of the reformulated gasoline program and expeditiously adopt rules relative to other products that would achieve similar air quality benefits. These rules are already in place in many states throughout the Northeast, making adoption in New Hampshire more feasible. The other bill introduced by Representatives Derek Owen and James Phinizy requires DES to develop a plan and timetable for prohibiting the sale of gasoline containing MtBE in New Hampshire. ■

## State water levels back to normal

**T**im Wilson, N.H. Geological Survey, collected groundwater level measurements at the end of December, confirming that state ground water levels were well past drought levels of the previous year. Water levels increased an average of 0.61 feet relative to last month. Water levels increased in all but one well statewide compared to data from December of 2002, and water levels were up an average of 2.12 feet and are all at normal or above normal levels. While 2003 proved to be a strong year for groundwater recharge in stratified drift aquifers, water levels typically decline during the remaining winter months because the frozen ground and precipitation limit recharge rates. ■

## Technical Seminars

*continued from page 1*

to attend so that we can plan our accommodations. (Lunch is *not* provided; please feel free to bring your own or to visit our cafeteria.)

**March 19 – “Tanks for the Memories – The Remedial Legacy of MtBE in NH,”** presented by Fred McGarry and Nancy Kinner. Where did it come from? How did it get here and how do we deal with this unwanted legacy for modern gasoline?

**April 16 – “Urban DNAPL Site Remediation – When is Enough Really Enough?”** presented by John Regan and Nancy Kinner. These chemical “sinkers” can cause more problems than most other contaminants in the groundwater. What is really the best way to deal with them in an urban setting where contact may be limited?

**May 14 – “Waste Reuse in Highway Construction – From the Big Dig to I-93”** presented by Taylor Eighmy. What have they been doing at the UNH Recycled Materials Research Center to help you drive on something you just threw away? Flowable fill, Glassphalt and glass/coal ash aggregate. The new commodities market?

**June 18 – “Contaminated Dredge Spoils Management – It's Not Just for the Seacoast Anymore,”** presented by Mike Sills and Kevin Gardner. Sure we need to dredge the Piscataqua to get the oil tankers in, but what happens if you run into contaminated sediments in the old town swimming hole? What are the options for the disposal of contaminated dredge spoils and why? ■



*Tanker in Portsmouth Harbor.*

## ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



*Environmental News* is a bimonthly publication of the N.H. Department of Environmental Services.

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## The DES website dons a new “look” for the New Year!

In an effort to present a unifying, professional image to the State government web sites, the Office of Information Technology recently established specific web site standards, guidelines and templates to be used on all executive branch department, agency, commission, program, and enterprise web sites. DES was among the first state departments to implement the new look.

Knowing that change was inevitable, the DES Website Editorial Board took this opportunity to take a close look at the strengths, weaknesses, and gaps in the website. They also included comments and feedback received directly from website users. The Board worked diligently over the last several months to improve and enhance several features and add information important to our constituents. Of note are the new Public Information Center and DES Business Center. DES “webmaster extraordinaire”

Joanne Keough is to be commended for her tireless efforts. She was under a tight deadline to switch our entire

website over by January 1, and she did it!

As we think you will agree, the new, improved website looks beautiful and works well!

Please take a few

minutes to “mouse around” the new lay out, and let us know if you run into any dead ends, lost links or other problems that may have been missed. The process of improving the web site is on-going and further changes and improvements are currently in the works. As such, please let us know if you have ideas for additional improvements or enhancements, and contact us through the web survey form at [www.des.nh.gov/Survey/](http://www.des.nh.gov/Survey/) or contact WEB Chair Vince Perelli at [vperelli@des.state.nh.us](mailto:vperelli@des.state.nh.us).

Also, please remember that both [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov) and [www.des.state.nh.us](http://www.des.state.nh.us) will always take you directly to our web site. ■



## Tony Giunta — new division director for WMD

The Governor and Executive Council confirmed Tony Giunta as director of the Waste Management Division on December 3. Tony, who has been with DES for last 12 years, served as administrator of the Water Supply

Engineering Bureau for the last four years. But Tony has a diverse background at DES, having also served in the Waste Management Division's Solid Waste, Petroleum Reme-



mediation, and Hazardous Waste Pre-Remedial programs.

Last fall, Tony represented the State and DES when he was asked to join a delegation of the National Guard's “State Partnership Program” to El Salvador. The goodwill mission sought to share ideas and strategies to address that country's environmental and hazardous waste issues.

Tony is a graduate of Boston College with a bachelor's of science degree in physics and a master's of science degree in geophysics. He is also a licensed professional geologist. Prior to working at DES, Tony was a research geophysicist with Exxon Production Research Company in Houston, Texas; a project manager for several environmental engineering firms; and founder of his own geotechnical and environmental consulting company.

Tony has been very active in local politics as well, having served on the City of Franklin's School Board and recently completing his second term as mayor of that city. ■

## Chloride data collected along I-93 corridor

In December, staff of the Water Quality Planning Section deployed four water quality data loggers in watersheds draining the I-93 corridor and other urban and residential areas. The data loggers will continually measure specific conductance in response to snowmelt and/or rain events from December 2003 through April 2004. Staff will retrieve data approximately every three weeks. The activity is part of a cooperative monitoring project by EPA-New England, DES and the N.H. Department of Transportation to evaluate the potential impacts to surface waters from road salt applications. Specifically, the data will be used to determine attainment of surface water quality standards for chloride, and to support the development of a regional total maximum daily load (TMDL) for chloride. The project will also collect water samples to test for concentrations of chloride; the data will be used to develop a correlation model between specific conductance and chloride. “Individual quality assurance project plans” were developed by each agency, and were approved by EPA-NE, for the respective roles in the overall project. ■



## State settles enforcement case for violations of air rules

### *Forsheda Palmer-Chenard, Inc. pays fine and reduces pollution*

*By Pamela Monroe, Compliance Administrator, DES Air Resources Division*

Commissioner Mike Nolin announced recently that DES had reached a settlement with Forsheda Palmer-Chenard, Inc., a division of Polymer Sealing Solutions, for violations of the State's air pollution control rules. Under the terms of the settlement, Forsheda willingly agreed to pay an administrative fine of \$38,944 and to purchase and retire emissions reduction credits representing 73 tons of smog-forming pollutants. The emissions reduction credits are intended to offset excess emissions resulting from the violations.

Forsheda manufactures a variety of rubber/silicone diaphragms for the automotive, industrial and aircraft industries at its facility located in Somersworth. Forsheda uses adhesives and other chemical compounds in its production process, which result in emissions to the ambient air.

The settlement came about as a result of Forsheda self-reporting to DES in December 2000 the results of an internal environmental audit that was conducted at Forsheda's manufacturing facility showing various areas of non-compliance between 1992 and 2000. Violations included failure to apply for a State Permit to Operate, exceeding the federal Clean Air Act Title V threshold of 10 tons for methanol, a listed hazardous air pollutant, and non-compliance with volatile organic compound (VOC) "reasonably available control technology" requirements.

After self-reporting these violations, Forsheda made a number of production changes and received the appropriate air permit. To comply with regulatory requirements, Forsheda installed air pollution control equipment that has reduced VOC emissions by

approximately 91 percent.

"We are pleased that New Hampshire companies are taking the initiative to identify violations and to promptly report and address areas of non-compliance," noted Nolin. "It is important that companies realize the business and economic benefits of environmental compliance. In this case, by reporting the violations and working with DES to come into compliance,

Forsheda was able to eliminate emissions of a federally regulated hazardous air pollutant and reduce its regulatory requirements."

*For further information, contact Pamela Monroe, Compliance Administrator for DES's Air Resources Division, at (603) 271-1370. To read the press release announcing this settlement, please go to [www.des.nh.us/press/press111003.htm](http://www.des.nh.us/press/press111003.htm). ■*

## Frank Richardson named "DES Employee of the Year"

In the festive atmosphere of a holiday luncheon, Commissioner Mike Nolin announced the first recipient of DES Employee of the Year: Frank Richardson. The following comes from the Commissioner's testimonial.

Frank Richardson earned his B.A. in philosophy from Boston University, and went on to receive both his M.S. in botany/plant ecology and Ph.D. in botany from the University of New Hampshire. Prior to joining State government, he taught field biology/ecology at the University of Massachusetts, and later taught botany at UNH. He has since published several professional papers on various aspects of botany, ecology, and seacoast issues.

His tenure with the State began in the early 1980s as a consultant for the Office of State Planning, where he identified and mapped prime tidal wetlands along New Hampshire's 18-mile seacoast. In 1982, he was hired as an Environmentalist III for the former Water Resources Board, and later became an Environmentalist IV for the current Wetlands Bureau.

Over his 20-plus years of dedicated service, he has logged countless hours on projects of critical importance to the seacoast and the quality of life of its residents and visitors. Notably among them:

- The Rye Harbor Saltmarsh Restoration Project
- Restoration of the natural tidal flows to the Aucomin Marsh
- Charter membership with the Seacoast Interagency Dredge Mgt. Task Force
- The Hampton-Seabrook Harbor (River Street Cut) Dredging Project
- Original author of the coastal soils manual

This is but a sampling of his many roles and achievements.

Congratulations Frank, and thank you so much for your many years of dedicated service to DES and the State of New Hampshire! ■



## Briefs from the Water Division

*The following are just a few of the activities in which the DES Water Division has been engaged. For more information about these and other such programs or events, please contact the staff person cited, call the Public Information and Permitting office at (603) 271-2975, or visit our website at [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov).*

### **Vrusho suit**

On February 5, Rockingham County Superior Court ordered a \$500,000 attachment against the property of George and Beverly Vrusho. This property is the subject of wetlands, site specific and water quality violations. DES documented violations of statutes, regulations and a previous court order requiring removal and stabilization of a large and steep fill pile, which has caused the deposition of 1.8 acres of sediment onto two neighbors' wetlands.

### **Proposed amendments for watershed protection**

Paul Susca, Source Protection Program, presented proposed amendments to Env-Ws 386 (Protection of the Purity of Regulated Watersheds) to the Water Council in December. The amendments include significant changes to the section protecting the Pennichuck Brook watershed, expanding the buffer areas along water bodies. The Council had no comments at the meeting. The amendments also address the delegation of enforcement authority to local officials. The Source Protection program is currently working with water suppliers and local officials to draft amendments (or new sections) strengthening protection for nine more water supply watersheds.

### **Franklin WWTF septage capacity**

A meeting was held recently at the Franklin Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) regarding future septage disposal capacity. The Franklin WWTP saw a 20 percent increase in septage disposal during 2003, and cannot sus-



*An early photograph of the Franklin Wastewater Treatment facility.*

tain another 20 percent in 2004. Former Plant Manager Randy Monti invited the septage haulers who utilize the plant, as well as Dick Flanders and Pat Hannon from the Residual Management Section, to attend. The meeting consisted of a brainstorming session to look at some immediate and equitable solutions to the septage disposal capacity problem in Franklin.

### **Benthic index development**

Dave Neils, Watershed Management Bureau, spoke at length with Karen Blocksom of EPA's National Exposure Research Laboratory in Cincinnati regarding the finalization of the draft benthic index of biologic integrity. The outcome of the discussion was agreement on the index development process, metric selection, and cutoff values. The draft index will be used in completing assessments for aquatic life use for the upcoming 305(b)/303(d) reports.

### **Rivers Management update**

At a recent meeting, the Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) reviewed the nominations for the Souhegan River Water Management Planning Area Advisory Committee (WMPAAC) and Technical Re-

view Committee (TRC), and voted to recommend a list of nominees for DES to consider. The RMAC, chaired by Steve Couture, also discussed residual setbacks and its study by the SB87 Study Commission. After a presentation on buffers and site specific considerations, the RMAC approved a proposal for consideration by DES and the SB87 Study Commission. This proposal includes a minimum 125 foot setback, a required riparian forested buffer and vegetated filter strip, site specific setback requirements, no stockpiling within 250 feet, immediate incorporation except for forage crops, and discontinuation of grandfathering for sites that existed prior to 1998. The RMAC also received notification that their comments for DES's mitigation rules would not be incorporated at this time, however, they would be invited to participate in the next work group that is formed to address future revisions/additions to the mitigation rules.

### **Exeter's withdrawal request**

Paul Currier, Gregg Comstock, and Paul Piszczek, Watershed Management Bureau, met with Bill Ingham and Cheri Patterson, both of Fish and Game Department, to discuss the Town of Exeter water withdrawal project. The Town proposes to increase its withdrawals from the Exeter River to meet water supply needs through 2020 and is currently working through the State permitting process. A 401 Water Quality Certificate is required for the project and will include conditions for the provision of anadromous fish passage over and around the Great Dam in Exeter. The Exeter River is the only coastal river in New Hampshire to be recognized by Fish and Game as a shad restoration river, due to the abundance of spawning habitat in the upstream reaches of the river. Therefore, Fish and Game has allocated significant funds during the past four years toward establishing anadromous fish runs throughout the river. ■

# Briefs from the Waste Management Division

*The following are just a few of the activities in which the DES Waste Management Division has been engaged. For more information about these and other such programs or events, please contact the staff person cited, call the Public Information and Permitting office at (603) 271-2975, or visit our website at [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov).*

## Addressing Paint Product Disposal

Paint is a major component of the waste stream and comprises up to 60 percent of the waste collected at household hazardous waste (HHW) collection events in New Hampshire. The burden on local governments to collect and manage waste paint is increasing in terms of volume, cost, and demand for services.

To address this issue, HHW Coordinator Melanie Wheeler has been working on a consumer outreach and education strategy that will help to reduce the amount of waste paint before it is generated. A pilot project was launched last summer to partner with local paint retail stores to help educate consumers at the source. In addition to an informational brochure, a clever and inexpensive educational tool was created and distributed through the stores: paint stirrers with the reminder "Don't trash it ... use it up," along with a website address and phone number for more information on the proper use, management and disposal of paint. The project will be expanded this spring.



Melanie also participated recently in a Product Stewardship Institute (PSI) meeting in Boston, hosted by the PSI of Umass-Lowell. The meeting was to discuss the issue of waste paint produced by homeowners and paint contractors. Local, state and federal government officials, manufacturers, retailers, trade associations, and other participants attended. The group worked on strategies to reduce the amount of paint wastes generated, reduce the amount of paint improperly disposed, and reduce the cost of collecting leftover paint. Three more meetings are planned over the next year to discuss issues and potential solutions for the problem of post-consumer paint management, including financing for managing leftover paint, transportation costs of waste paint, improving sorting procedures of the collected waste paint, redesigning/recycling the containers and reusing/marketing products made from post-consumer paint.

## Hazardous Waste Coordinator Certification Program

There are 192 large quantity generators (LQGs) and 375 full quantity generators (FQGs) that produce greater than 220 pounds of hazardous waste each month within New Hampshire. This means that a total of 567 generators require the onsite services of trained and State-certified hazardous waste coordinators (HWCs). DES held 19 training sessions between May and December 2003, reaching an audience of 694 HWCs, representing 484 generators. Of the 694 HWCs trained, 657 passed the final written examination and became fully certified by DES, equating to a 95 percent measure of success for the Program's first year of implementation.

The responses from the regulated community include comments such as: "... the State of NH has spent revenue in a very wise manner concerning Hazardous Waste Training. Firstly, the hazardous waste certification manual is spectacular. Hats off to the time and revenue spent."

"... I have enrolled in numerous seminars and training courses offered by various consulting firms that pertain to the rules and regulations for the proper management and disposal of hazardous waste. ... However, **none** of the seminars I have attended in the past approached the level of enthusiasm and genuine desire to educate the attendees as this seminar."

## Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC)

Peg Bastien gave a presentation about the ITRC to the Environmental Affairs committee of the Business and Industry Association at a recent meeting. Peg is New Hampshire's point of contact for the ITRC. The council is collectively comprised of state environmental agency representatives, EPA representatives, Department of Defense representatives, Department of Energy representatives, and others. Their purpose is to create tools, such as documents and training, which reduce or eliminate regulatory barriers to the implementation of innovative technologies for site investigation and remediation of petroleum and hazardous waste sites. Areas on which the ITRC has prepared either technical documents or training include: in-situ chemical oxidation, phytoremediation, passive diffusion samplers, dense non-aqueous phase liquid (DNAPL) characterization and remediation, surfactant/co-solvent flushing, in-situ bioremediation, permeable reactive barriers, and characterization and remediation of small arms firing ranges. ■



## ***Walking the talk*** Recycling efforts at DES Offices in 2003

*By Marc Morgan, former DES Recycling Coordinator*

**D**ES follows the dictum “Recycle-Reuse-Reduction” in many of its daily activities at its Concord offices. Items collected for recycling include: all types of paper, cardboard, glass, plastic, aluminum, toner cartridges, Tyvek envelopes, rechargeable batteries, transparencies, film containers, and fluorescent bulbs. Food waste from the cafeteria has also been composted on-site. The following chart shows the volume of our recycling success over the last year.

| <b>Item Recycled</b>                | <b>Amount Recycled</b>                |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| All Paper                           | 75,000 lbs.                           |
| Cardboard                           | 25,000 lbs.                           |
| Glass                               | 360 lbs.                              |
| Plastic                             | 2,800 lbs.                            |
| Aluminum                            | 1,000 lbs.                            |
| Toner Cartridges                    | 570 lbs. (163 units)                  |
| Tyvek Envelopes                     | 25 lbs. (1,250 units)                 |
| Rechargeable Batteries              | 25 lbs.                               |
| Transparencies                      | 15 lbs.                               |
| Fluorescent Bulbs                   | N/A                                   |
| Food Waste                          | None in 2003 due to lab construction. |
| <b>TOTAL diverted from disposal</b> | <b>104,795 lbs.</b>                   |

*Reuse: office supplies.* On three occasions in 2003, the DES Green Team set up a “reuse table” in the lobby. The items distributed—from three-ring binders to file folders—saved hundreds of dollars in avoided purchasing.

*Reduction: office paper.* Many of the staff routinely use the backside of paper for printing drafts and use the double-sided feature on printers and copiers to eliminate paper waste. This activity alone has reduced the amount of paper used at the agency.

Whether in the home or office, recycle-reuse-reduce has a positive impact on our environment. For more tips on reducing waste, please go to [www.des.nh.gov/nhppp](http://www.des.nh.gov/nhppp). ■

### **Northeast Resource Recovery Association 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference & Exposition June 7-8**

Waterville Valley, NH

For information, please call (603) 798-5777  
or go to [www.recyclewithus.org](http://www.recyclewithus.org).

## DES's voluntary smoke opacity testing produces results

*by Tom Watson, DES Air Resources intern*

**D**ES's Air Resources Division is continuing its efforts to reduce diesel exhaust emissions from heavy duty vehicles through a voluntary smoke opacity testing and idling awareness program. The program began testing truck and bus fleets in April 2003 in the seacoast area, which is classified as a serious ozone non-attainment area due to unhealthy air quality levels. The program is now expanding to truck and bus fleets in the southern regions of the state, also classified as ozone non-attainment areas. Ultimately, the program will reach heavy-duty vehicle fleets statewide.

Diesel exhaust, classified by EPA as a probable human carcinogen, contains very small particles, which are associated with increased respiratory illness and decreased lung function. The voluntary smoke opacity testing program aids fleet owners and operators in identifying vehicles with excess smoke emissions. By making timely repairs, fleet owners can significantly reduce the small particle emissions from their vehicles, saving money in both repair and fuel costs.



*Doug Starr, Air Resources Division, performing an opacity test on a diesel vehicle.*

To date, 365 trucks and buses from over 30 fleets have been tested. The smoke opacity test takes less than ten minutes per vehicle. The test measures the amount of light as it passes through smoke from a diesel vehicle — the higher the opacity level, the less light passes through. Of all the trucks tested, only a very few have failed the test, based on opacity levels set in N.H. Department of Safety regulations.

In addition to voluntary smoke opacity testing, diesel vehicle owners and operators are encouraged to avoid unnecessary idling whenever possible as a way to reduce emissions, save money on fuel costs.

For more information on the testing program, contact Tom Watson at (603) 271-7624 or Becky Ohler at (603) 271-6749. ■

## DES welcomes new public information official

After a year without a public information officer, DES has hired Jim Martin as its new agency spokesperson.

Jim comes to DES after working the last nine years for Second District



*Jim Martin, new DES information officer.*

Congressman Charles F. Bass. He worked eight of the nine years in Washington, DC, serving as the Congressman's policy director and head of the Washington office operations. One of his

core responsibilities during his tenure was oversight of legislative action on environmental policy, which afforded him occasional interaction with DES on such issues as air pollution, arsenic, combined sewer overflow, interstate waste, and MtBE. In addition, he has strong connections with many New

Hampshire environmental groups and stakeholders from his work on numerous congressional earmarks for land-conservation projects.

Jim graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a bachelor's degree in political science. While in Washington, he helped to form a non-profit organization that provides scholarships to New Hampshire students who obtain internships in the DC metro area.

In addition to his public information responsibilities, Commissioner Nolin has asked Jim to use his experience to strengthen the department's relationship with the congressional delegation, as well as to investigate any new or existing federal funding opportunities for which DES can be take advantage.

To contact Jim, please call (603) 271-3710 or email [jmartin@des.state.nh.us](mailto:jmartin@des.state.nh.us).

Welcome to DES, Jim! ■

## Update on Fraser Papers in Berlin

Fred McGarry and Peg Bastien met recently with Pat MacQueen, Berlin City Manager, Jim Wheeler, Berlin Director of Public Works, and Tammie Lavoie and Dave Bishop from Fraser Papers to present DES's reasons for proceeding with listing of the Cell House Site on EPA's CERCLIS. A chlor-alkali plant was located at the Cell House site from the 1898 to about 1950. Elemental mercury was used in a process that produced chlorine gas from a brine solution. This site contains elevated mercury and lead in soils. Elemental mercury has also been observed in bedrock fissures along the Androscoggin River. To date, DES has expended about \$500,000 for site investigations at the site and mercury removal from the riverbanks. Information has been sent to the EPA to start the listing process. ■

## NH 2002 Overview of Solid Waste

The "NH 2002 Overview of Solid Waste" has been published and is available to the public online (at [www.des.nh.gov/swats](http://www.des.nh.gov/swats)), on CD or in printed format. The 50-page document is a collection of solid waste management information and summarizes the state's waste trends in 2002. The annual report's information will be useful for municipal, waste industry or consulting entities as well as the general public. It was compiled from permit information, online databases, and research/statistics generated by the Solid Waste Technical Assistance Section. Input or other comments can be forwarded to Pierce Rigrod at (603) 271-3713. ■



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